

Wasatch County Water Efficiency Project



*Wasatch County
Special Service Area
Number 1*



**BARNARD CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**

**UTAH RECLAMATION
MITIGATION
AND CONSERVATION
COMMISSION**

Volume 1, Number 3

JUNE 1999

THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE

The dump trucks are rolling, the 'dozers are noisily shoving the dirt around, and the Heber Valley landscape is changing as this summer's construction season gets into high gear.

Already this spring, portions of the Timpanogos Canal have been grubbed and cleaned, and overgrowth along its banks has been removed. Clay has been excavated from the new Timpanogos Regulating Pond and worked into the canal lining, and the waterway itself has been in use since irrigation flows were turned on April 15.

Construction work on an irrigation system has unique challenges: during the time of year when the water is not flowing, the ground is usually too frozen (or covered with snow) to be excavated. That leaves two very small "windows of opportunity" for digging in the waterways when the water is shut off and the ground is workable—springtime before April 15 and fall after October 15.

Now that irrigation water is in the canals, Barnard Construction has turned its attention to some of the other features of WCWEP, such as pump stations, diversion structures, an administration building, and regulation ponds. The Timpanogos Pond is being built at Duke Lane and 2400 South. The Humbug Pond is being constructed east of the Justice Center. When the new pond is finished, an existing pond will be drained and used as the site for an administration building



Looking southwest along Timpanogos Canal from 2400 East intersection with canal. (Picture was taken April 16, before irrigation water filled canal.) The clay lining of the canal has been formulated from materials excavated from the Timpanogos Pond site (to the right of the canal, in the distance), without the need to supplement with additional clay or bentonite.

where the day-to-day activities of the complex water system can be overseen.

Pump stations are being built to boost water pressure where needed and to assist gravity flows in sprinkler systems across the valley. Water will be also be pumped to two regulating ponds for distribution by the Daniels Irrigation Company on the far south end of the valley.

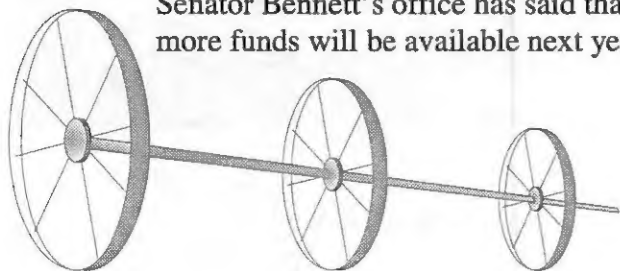
In addition to the main distribution system, irrigation pipe laterals will be extended from the Timpanogos and Wasatch/Humbug Canals. The majority of needed rights-of-way have been secured so that construction can proceed in an orderly fashion.

Visit our website for regular project updates: <http://cuwcd.com/cupca/projects/wcwe/wcwe.htm>

NRCS Sprinkler Conversion Cost-Share

Ralph Mickelson of the Heber NRCS office reports that 122 people signed up to take advantage of cost-share assistance in converting from flood- to sprinkler irrigation in 1999. NRCS will pay 65 percent of the conversion cost up to \$500 per acre for eligible irrigators.

Although program signup has ended for this year, Senator Bennett's office has said that more funds will be available next year.



Correction:

In a previous issue of this newsletter, Chad Gourley was listed as the source of information on the Provo River Restoration Project. Chad does work on the Project, but because he is in the field most of the time, he is not readily available to answer questions. The Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission requests that inquiries be directed to Diane Simmons, the Commission's public affairs officer, at (801) 538-3146.

Project Status

Barnard Construction Company and its subcontractors have been working hard to keep several steps ahead of the irrigators in order to avoid interfering with needed flows.

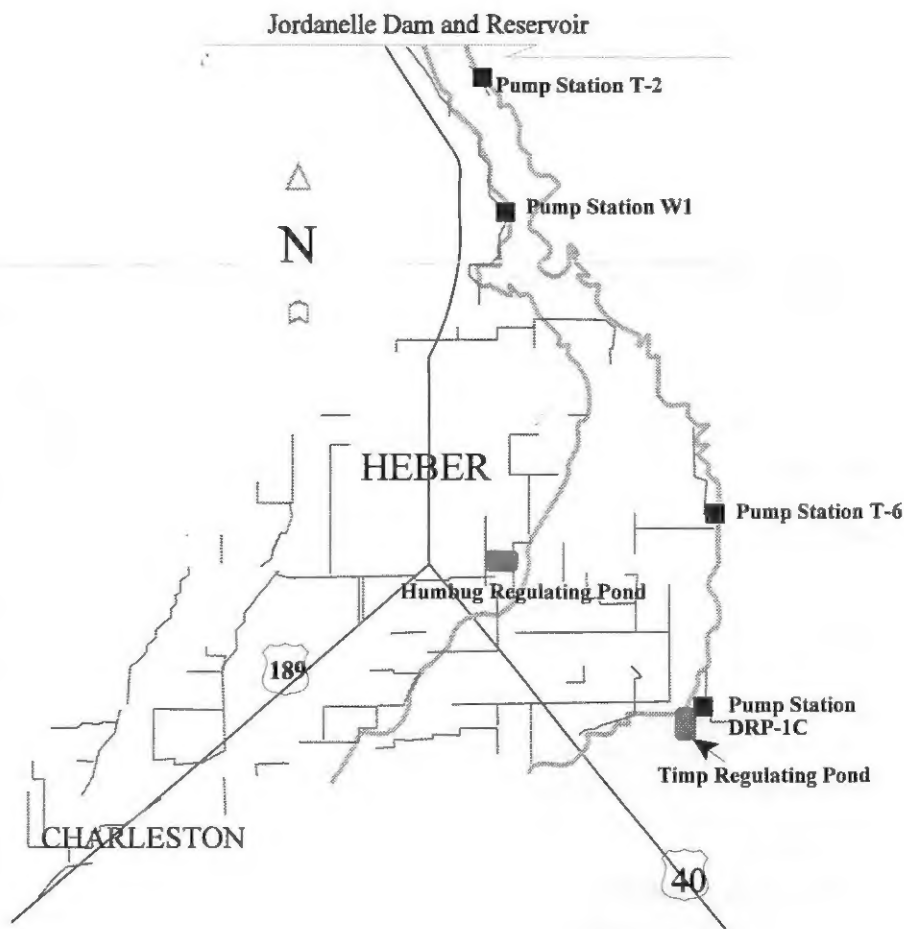
Pump Station W1, on the Wasatch Canal and Coyote Lane, is currently under construction, as well as Pump Station T2 at the head of Moulton Lane, and Pump Station T6 near 2400 East and approximately 700 South.

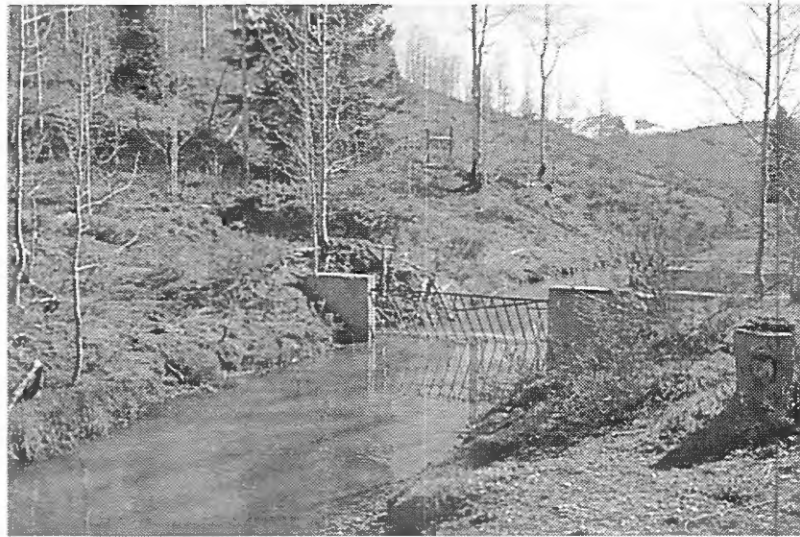
Pump Station DRP-1C, adjacent to the new Timpanogos Regulating Pond, is being built concurrently with the pond itself. These pump stations, along with the refurbished Timp and Wasatch/Humbug Canals will constitute the heart of the WCWEP distribution system.

Water will eventually reach the middle and lower ponds of the Daniels Irrigation Company for distribution to their water users.

Heber Valley residents will likely see WCWEP work crews at various sites around the valley this summer. Anyone with questions about

construction schedules or concerns or complaints about WCWEP construction should contact Karen Ricks, Resident Project Engineer. She can be reached at (435)654-1571 or cell phone (801)541-6443, or she can be visited at the construction office at 1562 S. Daniels Rd.





Looking southwest from the entry portal to the Daniels diversion tunnel to a trash screen and waste diversion structure. Water is flowing from the Strawberry River (right, distance) to the tunnel (left, out of picture).

Entry portal to Daniels diversion tunnel (behind brush, with trash screen)

The Daniels Replacement Project

"The District shall construct . . . a Daniels Creek replacement pipeline from the Jordanelle Reservoir to the existing Daniels Creek Irrigation Company Water storage facility for the purpose of providing a permanent replacement of water in an amount equal to the Strawberry basin water being supplied by the District for stream flows . . . which would otherwise have been diverted to the Daniels Creek drainage." (Central Utah Project Completion Act, Section 303) With these words, the Daniels Replacement Project (DRP) was authorized and set in motion.

The Daniels diversion tunnel was built in 1882 by some of the original Heber Valley settlers. The 1000-foot tunnel channels Strawberry River water into a stream that flows into Daniels Creek, and from there north to Heber Valley. The diversion has kept Daniels Creek flowing during the summer irrigation season when otherwise the creek would run dry, but the Strawberry basin has paid the price—riparian habitat and spawning grounds for Strawberry fish have been lost.

After regulating ponds and pipelines are completed for the delivery of water to Daniels Irrigation Company from the north, the Forest Service will work with Central Utah Water Conservancy District to plan and carry out the termination of the Daniels diversion. The tunnel will be closed but will be kept and marked as a fitting monument to the hard work and ingenuity of Heber Valley irrigators.

Looking northwest from above tunnel exit. Water exiting tunnel will enter Daniels Creek.





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This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Central Utah Water Conservancy District, with editorial review by the Wasatch County Special Service Area #1, the Department of Interior, and Barnard Construction Company, Inc. Comments and suggestions for inclusions of interest to property owners in the Heber Valley are welcome.

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CUWCD maintains a website with current information on WCWEP and other CUP projects:
<http://cuwcd.com/cupca/projects>